Atomic Power Plants in Rajasthan

4274. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Atomic Power Plants in Rajasthan are experiencing large cost overruns and continue to be non-operational; and

(b) if so, what are the plans of Government to resolve the problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) There has been increase in the cost estimates of 2×220 MWe RAPP 3&4 project presently under implementation. The original sanctioned cost of Rs. 711.56 crore was approved in November, 1986 without Interest During Construction (IDC). The revised cost estimate of the project including IDC approved in August, 1995 is Rs. 2107 crore. The increase in the cost is attributable to addition of IDC amounting to Rs. 657 crore, escalation, increase in taxes and duties, variation in exchange rate and delay in completion of the project consequent on the IC dome delamination incident at Kaiga-1 and the hold put by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board pending clearance of the revised design for the dome. It is expected that these units will be commissioned during 1998. The Unit-1 of RAPS which was shut-down from February, 1994 due to equipment related problems has been successfully restarted in April, 1997, after the leak in the Over Pressure Relief Device has been fixed using indigenously developed technology and robotic toolings. This unit has been operating at a re-rated capacity of 100 MWe. RAPS Unit-2 which is shut-down from August, 1994 for en-masse coolant channel replacement and upgradation of systems is expected to be restarted by mid 1998. There has been no revision in the sanctioned cost of Rs. 253 crore for the coolant channel replacement programme.

Plan Projects of IREL

4275. SMT. JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Rare Eartah Limited (IREL) is implementing any plan projects;

(b) is so, the plan projects implemented by the IREL during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(c) the details of the ongoing planned projects of IREL and their expected date of completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGUPALACHARI): (a) to (c) The Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL) has taken up certain plan projects for modernisation and improvement of the existing plants, augmenting the production capacity, making value addition, facilities for the staff, etc. The projects taken up in the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 and their status are given in attached statement.

Statement

Plan Project of IREL

COMPLETED PROJECTS

(i) Housing colony at Manavalakurichi:
Construction of 15 quarters including common amenities like water tank, roads, etc. for the essential staff, at a cost of Rs. 200.00 lakh.

(ii) Setting up of 22 TPH fluidised bed drier at Manavalakurichi:
For mechanically drying the wet concentrate for feeding it to the minerals separation plant thereby improving the production, at an estimated cost of Rs. 170.00 lakh.

(iii) Quality improvement of ilmenite at Chavara:
To improve the quality of ilmenite to meet international standards by

reducing its monazite content at a cost of Rs. 600.00 lakh.

(iv) Materials handling system for ilmenite at Manavalakurichi:

For automatic transportation of ilmenits from the production site to the new godown at a cost of Rs. 350.00 lakh.

(v) Modex project at Alwaye:

To increase the capacity of monazite processing from 4000 TPA to 5000 TPA. at a cost of Rs. 165.00 lakh.

(vi) Dredge & Wet Concentration Plant modification at OSCOM:

To modernize the existing dredge and wet concentration plant at a cost of Rs. 200.00 lakh.

2. **CONTINUTING PROJECTS**

Name of the project and its objective	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Expected date of completion
i. Installation of a new trommel screen system & surge bin modification oscom plant	400.00	June' 97
For modernizing the OSCOM plant for improving its production.		
ii. mill with accessories zircon grinding at Chavara.		
For producing Zirc flour by grinding Ziron sand.		
iii. Installation of dredge and wet concentration facility at Chavara.	1800.00	June' 97
For increasing the production of ilmenite.		
iv. Facility for recovery of zircon and rutile at Manavalakurichi	566.00	Sept.' 98
To improve the production of zircon by 1000 MT and rutile by 375 MT.		
v. Facility for production of neodymium oxide and lanthanum carbonate (PRYNCE) at Rare Earths Division, Alwaye.	910.00	August, 1997
For production of value added products like neodymium oxide, praseodymium etc.		
vi. Modernisation and improvement schemes at OSCOM.	400.00	June, 97
For improving the performance of MSP and SRP at OSCOM.		

दवाइयों की मनमानी कीमतें

4276. डा० महेश चन्द्र शर्मा: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान विभिन्न समाचार पत्रों में दवाइयों की मनमानी कीमतें वसूलने की खबरों की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) एकाधिकार और प्रतिबंधित व्यापार आयोग (एम०आर०टी०पी०सी०) के क्या कार्य हैं;

(ग) क्या शिकायत सं०-एफ०एन० 7(15233) टी ई के-92/आर यू/आर एन एस मार्च, 1992 से लंबित पड़ी है; और